

CONFIDENTIAL

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 29 September 1975

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[Redacted content]

2. [Redacted] LIAISON Met with Representative Dante Fascell (D., Fla.) and left with him the background material on the need for a secret budget. I mentioned to him that the House Appropriations Committee had voted to keep the budget secret and that possibly an amendment to publish the budget would be offered from the floor. He said that I had caught him sort of cold on the subject and he didn't know which way he would go. I pointed out to him the Director's position on the need for keeping the budget secret and the reasons therefor. I also left with him a fact sheet on the House Select Committee impasse. I pointed out to him that the real issue was not passage of information to Congress which we were happy to do, but control of that information once it had been passed. We discussed the [Redacted] matter and he stated that he could not see his way clear to change his vote. He thought it was a poor time to bring it up unless the Executive was sure it had the votes. Re: the GAO/ Mayaguez study he said he had not had a chance to talk to GAO and that if we got any further calls from GAO to let him know. Fascell was very amiable and talkative and thanked me for stopping by and bringing these matters to his attention.

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IMPDET CL BY: [Signature]

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4. [REDACTED] LIAISON In the company of [REDACTED] met with Representative Dante Fascell (D., Fla.) concerning the Comptroller General's letter to the Director of 9 September 1975 requesting "any and all information possessed by the Agency on the Mayaguez incident and other documents." It was explained that in the interest of limiting the unnecessary proliferation of sensitive Agency information, we have for more than a quarter of a century preferred to deal directly with the committees rather than with them through the GAO and that we thought that any change in the method of operation should await the findings of the Select Committees who obviously will be faced with the problem of which institutions or committees of Congress should be provided access to the various types of information possessed by the Agency. Mr. Fascell was understanding of our position, was of a disposition to call off the GAO in this instance, at least until the issue is resolved, and in general said he was supportive of GAO assuming a greater role in support of the Congress. Mr. Fascell will talk to GAO and will then advise us of his decision.

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